

BURLINGTON FREE PRESS (VT)
10 December 1982

CIA Interviews 20 Students at UVM

By JODIE PECK

Free Press Staff Writer

Twenty University of Vermont students were interviewed on campus Thursday by Central Intelligence Agency recruiters, one day after about 150 people attended an anti-CIA film and discussion.

The recruiters, from the Boston CIA office, were mainly interested in students who are proficient in foreign languages, said Lawrence Simmons, director of the UVM Center for Career Development.

He said 38 students had expressed an interest when the interviews were announced

last month, and that the 20 who signed up were "an all-time high." He said he could not explain the increased interest.

About 40 students, many carrying signs, had picketed against the CIA recruitment last month, but there was no demonstration Thursday.

Jack Noble of the university group Rising Sun Coalition, an organizer of Wednesday's event, said his purpose was educational.

"I put it together simply to let people know about the CIA's involvements around the world that they don't hear about," he said. "I don't think a lot of people know what the

CIA has done in the last 100 years."

Both the film and speakers were against the CIA because Noble said he could not find anyone to speak for the agency.

"We tried to get the CIA, but they wouldn't come. We tried to get a professor to defend the CIA, but we couldn't find one," Noble said.

"The CIA told us they never appear in public to defend their policies," he said.

Noble said he, too, was approached by the CIA to apply for a job because he is a Russian studies student and speaks Russian.